



Base Realignment and Closure

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awards largest San Antonio BRAC contract to date

(Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers News Release)

FORT WORTH, Texas - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, has awarded the largest single contract in the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure Program. The Gilbane Building Company, which has a regional office in San Antonio, received a contract for almost \$92 million Sept. 29 to construct the Joint Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma Research on Fort Sam Houston near Brooke Army Medical Center. The size of this contract exceeds the total amount of all the contracts awarded for the San Antonio BRAC Program through September.

The San Antonio BRAC Program is a construction and renovation initiative aimed at providing the facilities and infrastructure necessary to support implementation of the 2005 BRAC legislation. BRAC recommendations called for relocating several administrative and medical training missions to San Antonio, as well as consolidating certain missions that already existed at local installations. This initiative is scheduled to continue through September 2011 and is expected to cost in excess of \$2 billion.

The new Joint Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma Research will be located near BAMC at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, a subordinate component of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. The contract calls for building offices and laboratory space, as well as renovating portions of the institute. This new complex is intended to help integrate the combat casualty care research missions and functions of all the military services.

The BRAC Program stands to have immediate and long-term positive economic effects on San Antonio. The use of local contractors, sub-contractors and vendors will bring millions of dollars into the economy. More than \$125 million in contracting opportunities has been designated for small businesses alone. The construction contract totals for both Fiscal Year 2008 and FY 2009 are projected to be more than \$600 million in each of those years. The facilities built and renovated at Fort Sam Houston during the BRAC Program are expected to make way for as many as 11,000 additional military personnel and federal employees.

Representatives of the Corps of Engineers are part of the Joint Program Management Office, which is overseeing design and construction efforts for the San Antonio BRAC Program. The JPMO is a joint military service entity that represents a partnership between the Corps and the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, along with other agencies of the Army, Air Force and Navy, as well as private-sector contractors.